

AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-captioned divisional application as follows:

*In The Claims:*

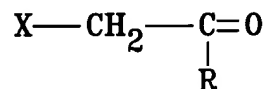
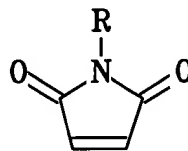
Please cancel claims 1 to 21.

Please add the following new claims:

24 ~~22~~. (NEW) A composition comprising an inactivated retrovirus, wherein the retrovirus is inactivated by contact with a compound selected from the group consisting of:

disulfides having the formula R-S-S-R;

maleimides having the formula



alpha-halogenated ketones having the formula

hydrazides having the formula R-NH-NH-R;

nitric oxide and derivatives containing the NO group;

cupric ions and complexes containing Cu<sup>+2</sup>; and

ferric ions and complexes containing Fe<sup>+3</sup>;

wherein the compound is not a C-nitroso compound of the formula R-C-NO, and wherein R is any atom or molecule, and X is selected from the group consisting of F, I, Br and Cl, and wherein contacting said retrovirus with said compound inactivates said retrovirus.

25 ~~23~~. (NEW) The composition of claim 22, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of: Tetramethylthiuram Disulfide, Tetraethylthiuram Disulfide, Tetraisopropylthiuram Disulfide, Tetrabutylthiuram Disulfide, Dicyclopentamethylenethiuram Disulfide, Isopropylxanthic Disulfide, O,O-Diethyl Dithiobis-(Thioformate), Benzoyl Disulfide, Benzoylmethyl Disulfide, Formamidine Disulfide 2HCl, 2-(Diethylamino)ethyl Disulfide, Aldrithiol-2, Aldrithiol-4, 2,2-Dithiobis(Pyridine N-Oxide), 6,6-Dithiodinicotinic Acid, 4-Methyl-2-Quinolyl Disulfide, 2-Quinolyl Disulfide, 2,2 Dithiobis(benzothiazole),